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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/921,948	08/03/2001	Michael Violette	303.017US4	1213

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EXAMINER

FARAHANI, DANA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application N .	Applicant(s)	
	09/921,948	VIOLETTE, MICHAEL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dana Farahani	2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-33 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-33 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3. 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 10-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of Grubisich et al., hereinafter Grubisich (U.S. Patent 5,698,459).

Regarding claims 10, 13, 16, 17-20, and 23-29, AAPA discloses in figure 2 a transistor formed in a semiconductor substrate (not shown), the transistor comprising a collector region, shown as an N well, having an impurity therein, extending downward from the surface of the substrate; a base region, shown as BASE, having an impurity therein and extending downward from the surface of the substrate into contact with a portion of the collector; an emitter, shown as EMITTER, on top of the base region with smaller area than the base region; a second implant region in the middle of the plug shown as N+ COLL TAP, in the collector region, about the same level from the surface of the substrate as the first implant; and an implant area, shown as LOCAL IMPLANT, of the collector region, vertically adjacent to the base region, the implant area having an effective surface area greater than the surface area of the emitter and less than the surface area of the base region.

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AAPA does not expressly disclose the implant area has an increased collector doping.

Grubisich discloses in figure 3a implant area 88, along a collector base junction, with an increased collector doping. Grubisich further discloses that area 88 provides the transistor with improved performance characteristics due to its additional doping (see column 10, lines 31-46). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to increase the doping of the implant area in AAPA to improve the performance characteristics of the transistor.

Regarding claims 11, 12, 14, 15, 21, 22, and 31, Grubisich discloses in column 12, lines 31-34 that phosphorus and boron are used for n-type and p-type doping of the transistor device of his invention. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use these materials, since they are cheap.

Regarding claims 30, 32, and 33, AAPA in view of Grubisich discloses the limitation in the claim, as above discussed. Grubisich also discloses the substrate 60 of figure 3a is of a second conductivity type, and the collector 86 is of a first conductivity type. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use this doping configuration to improve the performance characteristics of the transistor in AAPA.

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C nclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dana Farahani whose telephone number is (703)305-1914. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00AM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Olik Chaudhuri can be reached on (703)306-2794. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)872-9318 for regular communications and (703)872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

Dana Farahani
August 8, 2002



OLIK CHAUDHURI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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